

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 were objected to and rejected in the Final Office Action mailed October 6, 2011. Applicant amends claim 1 and adds claims 9-15. Support for the amendment and new claims may be found in paragraph [0039] and FIGS. 1, 2, 5, and 6 of the Application as filed. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 9-15 are now pending.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 were rejected because of a spelling error in claim 1. Applicant has amended claim 1 to correct the error.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 112, second paragraph

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of amended claim 1, in which the aforementioned spelling correction should remove the basis of this rejection.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 103

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bosma et al (US 6,443,972) in view of Greenhalgh (US 6,364,895) and Weaver (US 2004/0186510). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. Amended claim 1 recites, among other things, “wherein each of the first and second filter sections in conjunction with the vessel wall define a number of filter cells, and the second filter section defines exactly twice the number of filter cells as the first filter section.” Not one of Bosma et al., Greenhalgh, and Weaver teaches a two to one relationship between the number of filter cells in the first and second filter sections. Given the differences between the applied references and the claimed invention, claim 1 is not rendered obviousness by Bosma et al. in view of Greenhalgh in further view of Weaver.

Applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable and requests reconsideration of claim 1 and all claims that depend from it (2, 4-7, and 9-15).

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully assert that the present application is now fully in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. If any issues remain that may be addressed by a phone conversation, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the phone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the extension fee and any other fees which may be required by this paper to Deposit Account 10-0750/CRD5080USPCT/KM. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/CRD5080USPCT/KM.

Respectfully submitted,

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